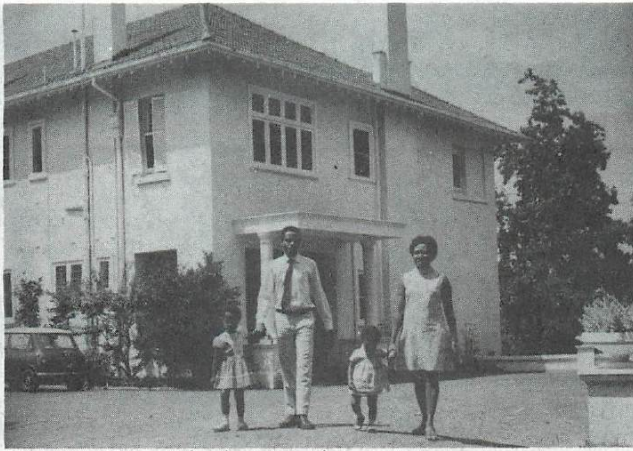


NEW WORLD NEWS

Vol 26 No 52 11 Nov 1978 8p

AUSTRALIA Community workshop



Papua New Guinean family at Armagh

TWICE ALDERMAN LLOYD EDWARDS was called to Sydney, 500 miles away, on urgent Council business. Each time he was back in Melbourne within 24 hours, taking part with his wife in a 'workshop' on 'Studies in Effective Living' at Armagh, the Asian-Pacific centre for MRA.

Alderman Edwards is a former Mayor of Mosman, in Sydney. Speaking at Armagh, he said that despite his civic involvements, his university lectureship in engineering, an economics course and a study of 200 'great books', there had been something missing in his life.

'This course has filled in the gaps,' he said. 'It has shown me that God has a plan for His creation. We can find our role by seeking His guidance and making absolute moral standards our standards of behaviour. This insight arose during the studies on 'The Inner Life—Source of Power' and was reinforced by the Bible studies.'

This was the fifth workshop on 'Studies in Effective Living' to be held at Armagh. Previously they have been designed as three-month full-time courses for young men and

women. In response to the demand from many in the Melbourne area, this one catered also for people doing a full-time job. The main events took place in the evenings and on Saturday mornings. Three Melbourne families, who included the National Vice-President of a trade union and his wife, moved in to stay at the centre.

Seventy people participated in the month-long workshop. Each week had five main sessions, which focussed on the struggle of ideas in the world, and their challenge to the way each person lives his life.

Inflation

The session on 'Democracy, Parliament and the challenge to us' was opened by JH Ramsay, the Minister for Labour, Industry and Consumer Affairs of Victoria. He led discussion on 'How should a parliament work?', 'Is democracy in danger?' and 'What about local government?'

Three young Papua New Guineans said that these sessions had enabled them to take an intelligent interest in the politicians of

their developing nation 'so we find the right future for our country'.

In 'life on the job', barriers of misunderstanding were broken down when 14 people ranging from executive to receptionist presented illustrative charts of their work in company, union, hospital or business. The Quality Control Officer of a large tyre firm who said he wanted to help people derive more from their work than just their pay packet, talked long with the State secretary of the union which organises his factory.

The Managing Director of an equipment hire firm commented, 'I was negative about the situation in industry when I came here. But I see that we in small businesses have a role in answering inflation.' A relationship of trust in a firm, he said, where employees are included in the running of the firm, and where the balance sheet is open to them, 'has to start with management'.

A former Federal Minister for Education, KE Beazley, opened the education sessions on 'Education and the struggle of ideas'. Good teaching, he said, depended on good

WORKSHOP contd p2

God's particle beam

by Dick Channer

THROUGH SPACE SATELLITE the inauguration of Pope John Paul II was seen across the world. Yet nowhere was it received with such enthusiasm as in his native Poland, where for the first time since the beginning of Communist rule the celebration of a Mass was seen on TV. In a world that longs for freedom from war and poverty, the Pope's words rang out with life and hope.

'Do not be afraid. Open wide the doors for Christ. To His saving power open the boundaries of states, economic and political systems, the vast fields of culture, civilisation and development. Do not be afraid. Christ knows "what is in man". He alone knows it.

'So often today man is uncertain about the meaning of his life on this earth. He is assailed by doubt, a doubt which turns into despair.

'We ask you, therefore, we beg you with humility and trust, let Christ speak to man.

He alone has words of life, yes, of eternal life.'

Even as Pope John Paul II spoke, passing overhead at 19,000 mph some 900 satellites continued ceaselessly to orbit the globe every 90 minutes. *Panorama*, the BBC TV programme, on the following day told something of what all this activity is about, for much of the orbiting hardware is military. Cameras aloft record at one exposure 800 square miles of territory and identify objects less than a foot in diameter. Spaceborne infra red sensors monitor heat sources, even reporting when Soviet soldiers turn on the ovens in their cookhouse. Some 400 US and 460 Soviet satellites reveal to each superpower everything about the other, where every intercontinental missile silo, where every anti-missile battery is located, and listen in to every radio and microwave transmission in the air.

Though these spies in the sky sleeplessly gather information, there is one thing they cannot do. They cannot report what in the last analysis are the intentions of men, who have their fingers on the nuclear buttons. The latest thing spotted by US satellites is a

Soviet complex experimenting on a charged particle beam weapon at Semipalatinsk in the depths of Siberia. If perfected, miniaturised and made operational, these beams could incinerate any incoming missiles and so negate an opponent's nuclear deterrent. If they can be orbited into space, cities below could be open to what has been called a bolt of lightning that might burn up as much as 800 square miles of territory.

The race in space is one of deadly earnest and so, too, as Pope John Paul II re-emphasised, is the race for the mind of man. Djilas, the Yugoslav dissident, wrote, 'Thus far revolutions have changed the economic structure. No revolution has yet changed the nature of man and the character of nations. The only revolution that has not yet been discovered is that which changes human nature.'

Such a revolution could be more vital than the charged particle beam weapon. It could reach and change the hearts and minds of the men who control the nuclear buttons. That revolution has in fact long been in existence. It is operational now. It is the power of God at work in the hearts of men.

All Love All

THE INDIAN MINISTER OF EDUCATION, the Deputy High Commissioner for India and the Ambassadors of Liberia, Mexico and Portugal were among the distinguished first night audience which gave *Love All* an enthusiastic ovation at the Westminster Theatre, London, on 26 October.

This is what some of those attending the first night said afterwards:

MP's wife: 'I wouldn't have missed this for the world. It is a great success.'

Businessman: 'This is God speaking to me.'

Woman journalist: 'The show was marvellous: the sort of thing you want to talk over and think about afterwards, as well as being a thoroughly entertaining experience.'

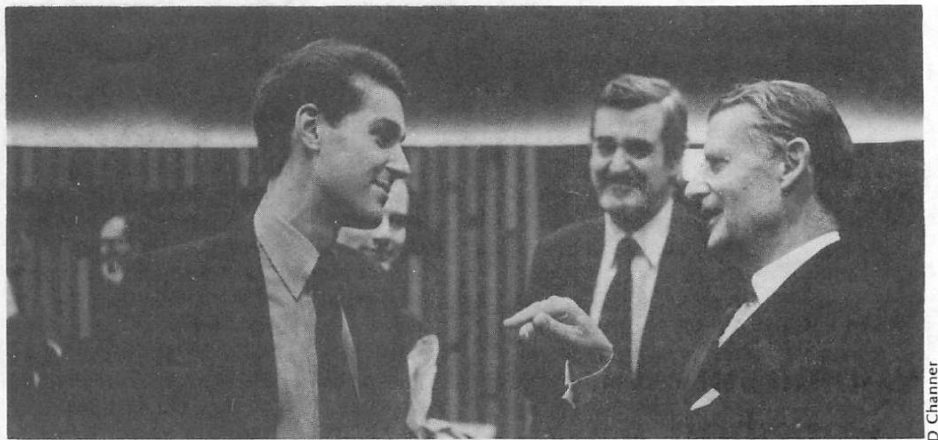
Senior citizen: 'I thought the best things in Britain were dead. Tonight has given me a new lease of life.'

City businessman: 'I was very excited by the effective way that the play combined entertainment with a message.'

Secretary: 'When the cast is small and the props are negligible and you still enjoy the play, it is a sign of superb acting.'

Receptions are being held each evening after the performance and members of the audience stay on discussing the implications of what they have seen on stage.

The play continues until 18 November.



Bunny Austin (right) with Brogden Miller (left), who portrays him in *Love All*. They talked on the first night of the musical, which tells the story of the tennis star and his actress wife, Phyllis Konstam.

WAS 'LOVE ALL' just for Christians, asked London Broadcasting on its religious magazine programme, *Sunday Supplement*. 'Oh no!' replied their reviewer, 'It's for everybody!'

The play was the subject of items on the programme two weeks running. Interviewed on 29 October, Ruth Madoc, who plays Phyllis Konstam, said, 'Doing this play has made me think. I wouldn't say I'm all that religious. But it's made me aware of my faults—if it can do just that small thing for me, I'm grateful.'

'The lyrics of the songs smack of truth right through the play,' said Alex Bader, reviewing the play the next week. 'It's catchy

and they do it very well. I recommend it.' She reinforced her views with comments from enthusiastic members of the audience.

The item ended with an interview with Chris Channer, joint Honorary Secretary of the Phyllis Konstam Memorial Fund. *Love All* was first presented at the gala launching of the fund, which aims, through Christian drama, to promote a renaissance of faith and unselfish values in national life.

The star interview on the leader page of the *Yorkshire Post* on 25 October, the day before *Love All* opened, was with HW 'Bunny' Austin.

Reviews of the play appeared in the *Evening News* and in the *Church Times*.

Time to leave the grandstand

by John Bond

TOMORROW IS Remembrance Sunday. A time when many remember the dead of two world wars.

In Europe we take for granted the post-war reconciliations which have given our continent peace since 1945.

But for many war is a terrible reality today—in Southern Africa, in Indo-China and the Middle East.

Often we view the world scene as from

the grandstand, analysing the causes of conflict. We are less quick to see where we have helped cause those conflicts. Or how we might help answer them.

I was in Ethiopia during the 1974 revolution. Emperor Haile Selassie was tottering. There was a ferment of searching for a new way forward. All the East European embassies flooded the papers with articles on the glories of their system. I opened the paper one day to find a contribution from the Information Service of the British embassy—on Chippendale furniture.

Working in Rhodesia since then has made me think further. It is no good appor-

tioning blame. We must face that there is something seriously wrong with our approach if during 14 years of UDI we have not been able to win our own kith and kin to a different way.

On this Remembrance Day, could we climb down from the grandstand and dedicate ourselves to the passionate care which changes men's motives, and without which war is inevitable? This passionate care has been the hallmark of so many in our history who brought radical change in social and economic conditions. A passion which springs from a living faith. Can we determine afresh to pass on this faith?

WORKSHOP contd from p1

teachers: that is, people of character, integrity and passion. He gave several examples of teachers who had changed social conditions for the Aborigine people by their concern and action.

A senior teacher at a Melbourne high school spoke of the confusion about the aims and objectives of education. Another high school teacher commented that while he was not allowed to propagate religious convictions, his students knew what he stood for. Every time he gave sex education classes some student would ask him his opinion. Commenting on some teachers' fear of losing control, he said, 'A heart filled with love cannot fear.'

A newly qualified nurse spoke of her decision 'to care enough to help both doc-

tors and trainee nurses to do their job', and said that in spite of the long hours she worked she was determined to take time to seek God's direction. The Supervisor of Nursing in Australia's largest cancer hospital commented, 'That is the hope of the nursing and medical professions. The common attitude has been, "When I get one step up from you, I tread on you as someone trod on me." But this is a new attitude.' After attending sessions of the course, she had decided to stop and listen to a colleague, instead of allowing the pressure of work to take precedence. This had changed the atmosphere in which both worked.

Another nursing sister called for more 'cross-fertilisation' between different professions so as to work out together the tasks God was calling them to. **JBW**

On course

TEN MONTHS in a world perspective—a new study and action course for Moral Re-Armament—opened at Caux, Switzerland, last month. Participants came from Brazil, Japan, France, Germany, Switzerland, Sweden and Norway, and are currently involved in field work in different European countries. They return to Caux in December for a period of intensive study, preceding the Christmas/New Year conference there.

The organisers write: 'Is there any solution that measures up to the confusion in the world? Just to do a little better what we have been doing so far is not enough. We need to break out of sterile analysis and begin to demonstrate a living alternative.'

INDIA Course deals with Achilles' heel

INDIA IS THE EIGHTH LARGEST industrial country in the world. Following Independence over 30 years ago, Jawaharlal Nehru launched a programme of industrialisation. Today there are steel plants, shipbuilding yards, heavy engineering factories, truck and car plants, aircraft factories and atomic energy power stations. From being dependent on imports for most manufactured items, India is now self-sufficient in consumer goods. Her export trade has diversified from the traditional items, tea, coffee and jute, to a large range of manufactured goods including engineering.

With a balance of payments position showing reserves of \$6,000 million, with nothing now owing to the International Monetary Fund, with the production of food grains at a record level of 125 million tonnes, India has moved from the help-seeking position of ten years ago.

She is one of the few countries other than the oil-exporting countries who have benefited from the oil crisis of 1973. Thousands of her citizens have gone to the oil-rich countries of the Middle East to fill employment vacancies. Several planes fly daily from Bombay to the Persian Gulf. Each month these employees remit a large proportion of their earnings to their families back in India. This, with the country's intensive export drive, has resulted in the spectacular healthy balance of payments position.

But all this has not been enough to meet the needs of a country with a third of the population below the subsistence level. It is estimated that there are some 20 million unemployed in the urban areas, while the strengthened economic position has not reached the 600,000 villages where 80% of the people live. In fact, the villager is worse off, as he has, with inflation in the urban sector, to pay more for goods manufactured in the towns. Clearly the 'trickle-down' economic theory has been found wanting.

Cement

Since the Janata Government came to power in the past 20 months, the pattern of industrialisation is open to serious re-thinking. Interestingly enough, it is to the rejected economic principles of Gandhi that many planners are now turning. In recent times the late Dr Schumacher has been a strong protagonist of this thinking through his book, *Small is Beautiful*.

The Janata Government have shifted the emphasis of industrial planning from the urban to the rural areas. They have drawn up a list of over 500 commodities for which licences will not be granted for manufacture unless factories are placed in the rural area. Manufacturers of soap and matches, for instance, who have a large section of the present market, have been told to phase out their production over the next three years and go in for the manufacture of items that



VN Prasad and CP Singh—once rival union leaders

cannot be produced in small units. One of these is cement, whose production needs to be doubled.

It is a bold and imaginative concept which will strain all the available resources of energy and adaptability. But it can work because India is a wealthy country—rich in manpower and natural resources.

Industrial relations is the Achilles heel of the Indian economy. Failure to win a substantial period of industrial peace will condemn the economy to stagnation.

With this need in view, a 'training programme in creative leadership and national development' is being conducted at Asia Plateau, Panchgani, the MRA centre.

Rivals

These courses are conducted for six days each month. Already 35 companies have sent representatives from management and labour in company time at company expense. One of the foremost textile companies has sent 150 of its staff and workforce.

The programme prospectus states, 'The unique element of these courses is that they go beyond industrial relations techniques to the fundamentals of changing the attitudes of people. They also provide training in leadership and the art of tackling man-made bottlenecks at all levels.'

Two rival trade union leaders from Tata Engineering and Locomotive Company Ltd, who make 60% of the trucks and buses on the Indian roads, came to Panchgani. Their rivalry had caused five strikes in 1973. In the company magazine they wrote jointly, 'We belonged to rival camps of workers engaged in a long struggle for control of the shop floor. But today we are partners in a revolution to build a better world, not only for workers, but for the whole of mankind.' They concluded their article with, 'We do not promise that we shall never go on strike. We only promise that to settle any dispute we shall seek that solution which is just to the workers, just to the company and just to the nation.'

Since then, one of these men, CP Singh, was called in by the manager of another department to help solve a low production problem. The Manager reported that instead of pointing the finger at who was to blame

for a bottleneck in the supply of raw materials, CP Singh quietly went ahead and got the materials flowing. He next found that the Section Trade Union Leader and Supervisor were not on speaking terms and that the trade union leader was not attending the productivity council meetings, and this was put right. A new spirit came in and production rose from 750 tonnes to 1,300 tonnes.

Following their visit to Panchgani, two of the Managers of this plant made costly apologies to two juniors they had wronged. MP Singh, the Assistant Secretary of the TELCO Workers' Union, who had been on the same delegation to Panchgani, arranged seven meetings, ranging from senior managers to those in the housing quarters where the most radical workers live. Everywhere he spoke of his change and new convictions. He apologised to the workers for talking big and doing nothing for them. He told of his apology to a superintendent whom he had bullied, and he told how he had said sorry to his wife for all the lies he told her.

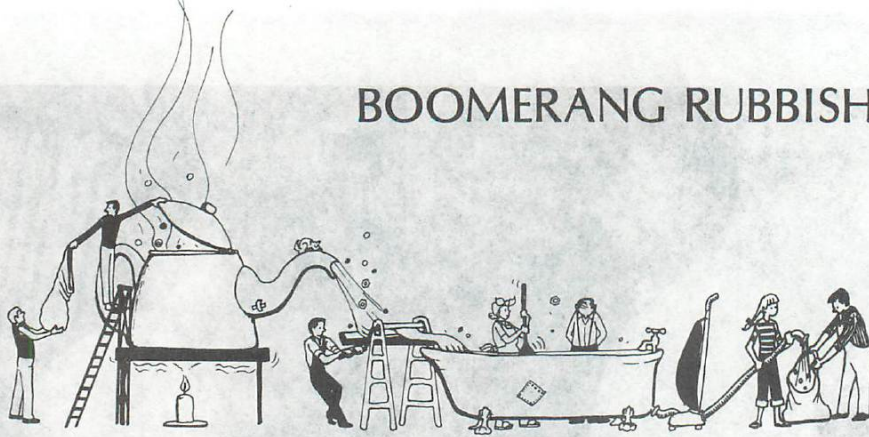
Documents

The Personnel Manager of a large petrochemical undertaking is another who has attended these industrial sessions at Panchgani. He arranged for a special showing of MRA's industrial play, *The Forgotten Factor*, for the employees of his company. His change of attitude and new motivation so impressed the staff union leader that this man decided to go to Panchgani. On his return he came to the Personnel Manager and told him that he had been preparing a case against the company. Realising that it was motivated by bitterness, he felt it was wrong. He then said, 'I have found it difficult to destroy all this work but my thought is to bring this collection of documents to you for disposal.'

Satya Banerji, a Calcutta trade union leader who has taken part in many of these courses says, 'I have come to believe that given faith and a new motive, an ordinary man can do extraordinary things. A new unselfish leadership can emerge from the ranks of ordinary working people to tackle the problems of unemployment and hunger in our country.'

REX DILLY

BOOMERANG RUBBISH



THE BOOMERANG, the age-old weapon of the Australian Aborigine, is the symbol of a new company started two months ago in Olney, Buckinghamshire, by Robert and Margaret Hansford and Ralph Stoddard, a Welsh quarry-owner. The company will recycle material which would otherwise be thrown away.

The idea of 'Asset Recycling' came to Robert Hansford, then a research scientist at Cranfield Institute of Technology, at four o'clock one morning. 'High Street shops up and down the country where material could be brought in and exchanged for stamps.' 'You must call them boomerang stamps,' said his bank manager later that morning. 'What you throw away comes back.'

Last month the *Daily Express* carried the story as its main editorial-page feature. Stories followed in five other papers, on two TV programmes and on BBC radio.

Buffalo and cow

When we visited it last month, a steady stream of housewives and schoolchildren were coming into the shop. They brought newspapers, sump oil, tyres, aluminium milk bottle tops, neatly flattened and washed tin cans, washed plastic containers, fresh grass clippings, unwanted clothing and glass bottles with lids; all to be exchanged for boomerang stamps—printed on disused lecture paper and then stuck into boomerang stamp books made out of recycled telephone directory pages.

'The response is amazing, everyone wants to have a part,' said Robert. 'Housewives hate to throw away those sort of things. Their grandmother's adage, "Waste not, want not", is deeply ingrained.

'Many come through the door and ask, "Will it pay?" I reply that I don't know, but that is not the question. The real question is, "Is it right?" We have experienced over many years whilst working with Moral Re-Armament in different countries that "Where God guides, He provides." Now we feel led to demonstrate this principle in the High Streets of this land.

'I first began to question the basis of our materialistic society when I lived with North

American Indians. They make use of everything. They taught me that as we share this planet with other creatures, we need to honour and respect them. The difference between their approach and ours can be seen in the way we destroyed the buffalo, which they had lived with—and in the way we treated the Indian people.

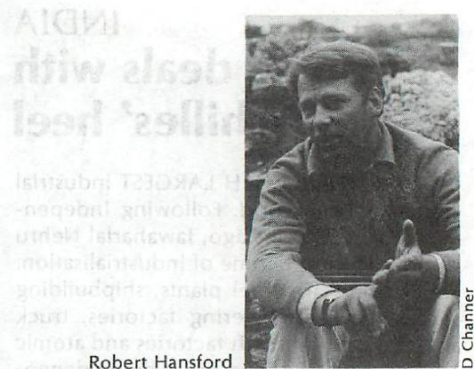
'Then, when living in Calcutta where human need is so blatant, the picture of a man cutting an already mown lawn with a carving knife to get grass for his cow, fixed itself in my mind. How can we in the West, who have the benefit of the very best of the world's resources, change our way of life to take these things into account?'

The cornerstone of the Asset Charter is the need for people to find and follow that whisper which will lead them through life, and to learn the moral basis on which God's voice is heard. The Charter reads:

'The purpose of this company is to do the will of Almighty God—to demonstrate that where God guides He provides, and that what unregenerate man rejects may become the greatest asset. We know that we are powerless to do any lasting good in our own strength, but that with His guidance and power miracles are possible. We know that human wisdom has failed—that in spite of great gains in scientific knowledge, man has become more arrogant, more selfish, more greedy and more wasteful. Our objective in founding this company is to help create a new society where waste is minimised and God is glorified, where we learn to honour Him first and each other in preference to ourselves. We offer a part in this society to every man, woman and child on earth to live as assets rather than liabilities.'

Petrol-saver

Bill Ponsoneau of the Ponca Indians spent a week working at the shop. Bill lectured in Sociology and Indian Affairs at Harvard University, has been a Presidential Adviser on Indian Affairs and is at present involved in the 30% unemployment levels in the Indian community. 'This is Indian, Bob,' he said. 'This is the sort of programme my people would want to be a part of.' Bill wants



Robert Hansford

to start Asset in the USA and plans to bring over some of his people for training next spring.

Schoolchildren come into the Asset shop to help and work willingly all day. Ian Greig, a civil servant from Suffolk, drives over each weekend to help. 'My boss tells me I'm totally different since I've been coming here, my whole attitude has changed,' he says. Sally Simpson, a biology mistress, has recently joined Asset in Olney. 'It's so relevant,' she says. 'We have had letters asking for help in setting up Asset shops in five different parts of the country and through many miracles we feel the agency of God in a way we could not contrive ourselves.'

'People are learning to appreciate the value of everything,' continues Robert Hansford, 'whether it is a tin can—plated with tin which is now worth over £7,000 a ton—a second-hand pair of shoes, or even more the yet-to-be-explored capability of the human mind in touch with its Creator.'

With bottles and newspapers we took in, we are collecting boomerang stamps towards the 'Asset petrol-saver, designed for the person who cannot go anywhere without a gear-knob in his hand'—a walking stick. With petrol forecast at £1.00 a gallon next year, we want to be ready.

ROB AND LYN PATTISON

Don't forget cassettes!

One Day in Keswick—Frank Buchman's experience of the Cross in his own words. £2.50

The Satellite—Christmas radio play by Peter Howard. £2.40

Britain 2000—London housewife's play presented by Indian, West Indian and English families. £2.20

All available from Grosvenor Books, 54 Lyford Road, London SW18 3JJ, p&p 20p.

Canadian readers

WE REGRET that, due to the alteration of the exchange rate, we need to increase the Canadian subscription rate for NWN to \$16 per annum.